

GRIFFIN B. BELL
REVIEW PANEL MEMBER FOR MILITARY COMMISSIONS

BIOGRAPHY

Griffin B. Bell will serve as a member of the review panel for military commissions. Review panel members are responsible for reviewing military commission proceedings. The review panel may consider written and oral arguments by the defense, the prosecution and the government of the nation of which the accused is a citizen. If the review panel finds that a material error of law occurred, the review panel will return the case for further proceedings, including dismissal of charges. The review panel may also make recommendations to the secretary of defense with respect to the disposition of the case before it, including sentencing matters.

Bell is a partner at the law firm of King & Spalding. He served as a U.S. circuit judge on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit after being appointed by President Kennedy in 1961 and served until 1976, when he returned to King & Spalding. He also served as the 72nd attorney general of the United States from 1977-79, after which he returned to his firm. He is a member of the American College of Trial Lawyers, serving as its president from 1985-86. In 1989, he was appointed vice chairman of President George H. W. Bush's Commission on Federal Ethics Law Reform. He is also a member of the American Law Institute.

Bell graduated from Mercer University Law School in 1948. After graduation, he practiced law in Savannah and Rome, Ga., until he joined King & Spalding in 1953.

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